Times' dated 26.6.2001, raising serious doubts on the actual performance and capability of the prestigious Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto, alongwith contribution of the Institute during the last few years to justify continuance of an annual grant of Rs. 350 crores; and

(c) the steps taken to evaluate its performance / utility and to revamp the Institute for fulfilling its assigned role of providing direction in policy formulation on sensitive security issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Two cases mentioned are under investigation. In the case of Smt. Savita Pande, the individual has since left the Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis (IDSA). In the case of Smt. Sanjana Joshi, the Institute has initiated action to scrutinize the allegations of plagarism and action will be taken in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Institute.

The annual grant received by the IDSA is in the region of Rs. 3 crores. Regular reviews are carried out periodically of the performance of the Institute and its personnel by its Director as well as by the Executive Council of the IDSA. A review committee headed by Shri N.N. Vohra, former Defence Secretary is currently finalizing the report on the functioning of the IDSA with the view to making the IDSA a yet more efficient and effective research institute.

Recommendations of Joshi Committee

2619. SHRI R.P GOENKA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Army Headquarters has drawn up a fresh policy framework to revamp the Army, as reportedly suggested by the Lt. General Pankaj Joshi Committee; and

(b) if so, the major recommendations made by the Committee and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAM RAJU): (a) A Committee under the chairman- ship of Lt. Gen. Pankaj Joshi was ordered by Army Headquarters in October, 2000 to examine and review important aspects pertaining to the Officers' cadre of the Army.

(b) The report of the Committee is under consideration of Army Headquarters.

Operation Sadbhavana Carried out by Defence Services

2620. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Operation Sadbhavana is carried out by the defence services in Jammu and Kashmir;

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.